

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 6 and 8 are amended to further clarify that the digital image storage (with its controller) is located apart from the docking station, as is recited in the other independent claims. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP-A-8-69684 (Chatani). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Chatani does not disclose or suggest an arrangement in which a docking station for a digital camera is located apart from the digital image storage having the memory that stores digital images transmitted from the digital camera through the docking station. In Chatani, the "deck section" 6 to which the digital camera is detachably coupled is provided on the "standby station" 1 in which the memory is disposed. Accordingly, Chatani does not disclose a storage medium that stores a computer program, as recited in independent claim 8, that causes a controller of a digital image storage that is located apart from the docking station to detect receipt of a signal from the docking station which is located apart from the digital image storage and the controller, and that causes transmission of the digital images from the digital camera to the digital image storage. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 (Berstis) in view of Chatani. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Neither Berstis nor Chatani, singularly or collectively, discloses or suggests the combinations of features recited in the independent claims of this application. In particular, neither of the references discloses or suggests an arrangement that detects a signal from a docking station that is located apart from the digital image storage, as is recited in independent claims 1, 6, 8 and 9, or that detects a change of status of a docking station that is

located apart from the digital image storage, as recited in independent claim 10, in order to cause the taking out of digital images from the camera on the docking station.

Berstis clearly teaches that the camera microprocessor 208 automatically transmits image data to an external computer when the camera 102 detects that power is being supplied to the camera 102, for example, through the cradle 106. See, for example, col. 4, lines 20-23, col. 4, lines 28-30 and col. 4, lines 53-56 of Berstis. Thus, Berstis does not disclose or suggest detection of a signal or change in status from a docking station that is separate from the digital image storage in order to cause the controller of the digital image storage to cause transmission of the digital images from the digital camera.

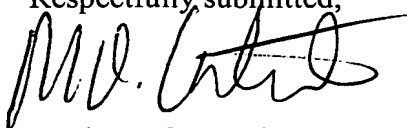
Chatani does not disclose or suggest modifying Berstis, as proposed in the Office Action, to result in the combinations of features recited in Applicants' independent claims. In Chatani, the "deck section" 6, which receives the digital camera, is provided on the "standby station" 1 having the memory to which the image data is downloaded from the camera. Thus, Chatani does not disclose or suggest a digital image storage having a controller that detects a signal from a docking station located apart from the digital image storage and causes the taking out of the digital images from the camera memory as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 8 and 9, or a controller that detects a change of status of the docking station that is located apart from the digital image storage and that causes the taking out of the digital images from the camera memory, as recited in independent claim 10. Accordingly, the combinations of features recited in Applicants' independent claims are not suggested in Berstis or Chatani, even when they are considered collectively. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Berstis in view of Chatani, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,516,099 to Davison. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 3 is patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to its independent claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:lmf

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 14, 2006

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